THE

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AMERICAN NEWS.

Authentic copies of LETTERS *between Admiral* ARBUTHNOT *and the* CHAMBER OF COMMERCE *of the city of New York.*

SIR, *New York, May 2. 1781.*

I AM directed by the Chamber of Commerce to repreſent to your Excellency,

That the port of New York is, from the nature of its ſituation, become the principal depoſit and magazine of all military, as well as mercantile ſtores and proviſions from Great Britain and Ireland.

That its intercourſe alſo with the Weſt Indies and his Majeſty's American colonies is very conſiderable.

That conſequently the beſt cruizing ground for the enemy, perhaps in the world, is within a few leagues of Sandy Hook.

That more property has conſtantly been captured by their privateers within fifty leagues of that place, than perhaps upon all the reſt of the Atlantic ocean.

That the the ſucceſs rebel privateers have met with, in a few days cruize (when they can be out and home again, and many of them in ſo ſhort a time, having actually made large fortunes), will greatly encourage others to engage in the ſame enterprizes.

That, from every information, many ſtout privateers are fitting out in the different rebel ports to infeſt this coaſt; and that, unleſs effectual meaſures be taken to defeat and blaſt their deſigns, very few, except veſſels of great force, will either get ſafe in or out of this port.

That, from the many captures which have already been made, the premiums of inſurance are ſo much enhanced in London, as greatly to diſcourage the importer.

That from former experience (notwithſtanding the different convoys of proviſions for the navy and army have generally arrived more fortunately than could well have been expected), they, as well as the inhabitants of this garriſon, have, at different times, experienced great inconveniences, and muſt have been reduced to the moſt complicated diſtreſs, had it not been from the large ſupplies derived from private importers.

That, by late advices, the garriſon of Gibraltar exhibits to public view a ſtriking inſtance of the ſalutary and invaluable advantages which flow from private importations, and that from this exuberant ſource even the navy of this port are, at this day, enabled to purchaſe a ſupply of bread.

That from the preceding, and many other conſiderations which might be adduced, the Chamber of Commerce humbly conceive, that no *other* object ſo *eaſily* attainable can be of ſo *great* importance as the *effectual* protection of the trade of this port.

That, with all due deference to your Excellency's better judgment, they conceive that a couple of faſt-ſailing frigates, conſtantly at croiſe between [illegible] and making the Light-houſe at Sandy Hook once or twice a-week, as the winds might permit, would effectually protect the trade at this port from all invaders.

That the doing ſo, conſidered only as a mere act of prevention, would diſtreſs the rebels more than any captures made from them could effect; it being notorious that their principal reſource and dependence is, and has been, from the ſucceſs of their privateers, and that they have derived more ſupplies by theſe means than from all their importations, together with thoſe of their allies, during the rebellion.

That, therefore, the Chamber of Commerce are fully convinced, that if the nature of the public ſervice will permit, your Excellency will pay every attention that ſo important an object may ſeem to require.

That ſo deeply are they impreſſed with the magnitude of its importance, that they not only conceive it to be their indiſpenſible duty to impart theſe their ideas of it to your Excellency; but in caſe it ſhould not be in your Excellency's power to afford the deſired relief, to pray, it may be granted from home as ſoon as poſſible: convinced that the rebellion can *never* be happily terminated, until ſo great a ſource of ſupply to ſeed and nurture it can be effectually prevented.

I am directed alſo to repreſent the fiſhery upon the banks of Shrewſbury, as an object of great importance to this garriſon; and that unleſs a proper armed veſſel can be appointed daily to protect the fiſhermen from the gun and whale boats that are preparing upon the adjacent ſhores to attack them, they will find it totally impracticable to purſue that buſineſs.

Amongſt the variety of important ſervices which muſt conſtantly engage your Excellency's attention, the Chamber of Commerce can eaſily conceive the embarraſſment they muſt occaſion to which you ſhould give a preference; but they preſume the objects they have mentioned are of too much conſequence not to attract your Excellency's mature conſideration, and they are convinced your Excellency will be happy to afford every aſſiſtance in your power.

By order of the Corporation of the Chamber of Commerce,
I have the honour to be,
Your Excellency's
Moſt obedient humble ſervant,
ISAAC LOW, Preſident."

His Excellency Admiral Arbuthnot, &c. &c.

SIR, *Royal Oak, off New-York, May 3.*

I HAVE juſt received the letter you have honoured me with, pointing out the neceſſity of frigates being conſtantly employed in cruizing off Sandy Hook, for the protection of the trade bound to this place, as well as for protecting the fiſhery upon the banks of Shrewſbury, and to prevent the rebel privateers from making ſuch near approaches to this port as they have lately done, to which they are reported to have met with too much ſucceſs.

It gives me no ſmall concern that you ſhould ſuppoſe I have been in the ſmalleſt reſpect inattentive to this ſervice in the arrangement of the King's ſhips under my command; becauſe, ſince my return from Charleſtown, the greater part of my force hath been upon this coaſt; and during my ſtay at Gardner's Bay, frigates have not only been cruizing almoſt conſtantly off the Bar, but between Montock Point and the Delaware.

As far as circumſtances could permit, ſince my leaving Gardner's Bay, I have detached cruizers off this part of the coaſt, I am ſorry to ſay, it has not been in my power to ſtation a ſingle frigate for the protection of the trade bound to Halifax, a port not inferior to any in America.

With reſpect to the protection of the fiſhermen employed on the banks of Shrewſbury, for ſupplying your market, I cannot help mentioning to you, that early after I took the command on this ſtation, I purchaſed a veſſel, mounting 12 carriage guns; ſhe was fitted out at a conſiderable expence; I requeſted that the city would man her, that I would pay the men, and that her ſervices ſhould never be diverted to any other purpoſe than giving ſuch protection. My offer was received with a ſtrong degree of coolneſs; and till now, I have never had any further ſolicitations on the ſubject.

I am, Sir,
Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,
(Signed) M. ARBUTHNOT.

SIR, *New York, May 28.*

I HAD the honour of receiving, on the 5th inſt. your Excellency's anſwer to the repreſentation of the Chamber of Commerce, relative to the requeſted protection of the trade of this port, which I took the firſt opportunity of laying before them.

It is with concern they find you have ſuppoſed any part of their letter to imply a particular inattention in your Excellency to this ſervice; as they flatter themſelves no part of it will bear *ſuch* conſtruction; nor was any thing more diſtant from their intention than to give cauſe of the leaſt offence.

They meant only to impart to your Excellency their ideas of the mode (never hitherto altogether adopted) of affording *effectual* protection to this port, ſubmitting the reſult, as in duty bound, to your Excellency's diſcretion and better judgment.

That it is not in your Excellency's power to afford all the protection you wiſh to the trade bound to Halifax, as well as to this port, we equally lament; and although we would not draw a compariſon between the two ports, in point of harbour, for *large* ſhips, ſo neither can we ſuppoſe your Excellency means to be underſtood, that the one can bear the leaſt competition with the other, as to the importance ariſing from the value of imports and exports, which renders the port of New York ſo immediately and eminently the *ſuperior* object of protection.

With regard to your Excellency's requeſt to the *city*, to man a veſſel for the protection of the fiſhery on the banks of Shrewſbury, the Chamber of Commerce beg leave to aſſure your Excellency, that no application was ever made to this corporation upon that ſubject; or, in all probability, they had taken it up with the [illegible] admit they manifeſted to provide [illegible] for manning his Majeſty's ſhips under your command.

And if your Excellency will be ſo good as to furniſh a proper veſſel, with proviſions and ammunition, to protect the fiſhermen on the banks of Shrewſbury, for the benefit of this market, the Chamber of Commerce will cheerfully exert their endeavours, and they doubt not they will be able, in a ſhort time, not only to procure as many men as your Excellency may think ſufficient for that purpoſe, but alſo to raiſe funds for paying them; provided protection from impreſs can be granted by your Excellency to the men, and that they ſhall be diſcharged as ſoon as the fiſhing ſeaſon is over.

By order of the Corporation of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honour to be,
Your Excellency's moſt obedient,
humble ſervant,
ISAAC LOW, Preſident.

His Excellency Admiral Arbuthnot, &c. &c.

From the London Papers, Aug. 7.

LONDON

Extract of a letter from Peterſburgh, dated July 6.

"The police of this city hath cauſed the following notice to be poſted up:

"Laſt month, in the port of Cronſtadt, a very thick ſmoke was ſeen coming out of a man of war lying there, on board of which there had been no fire for above five days. The ſmoke iſſued from a cabbin, which but four hours before had been carefully ſhut up, and the door ſealed. In this cabbin were ſeveral articles neceſſary for a voyage. After the door was broke open, they diſcovered a piece of ſail cloth in flames; and after a more cloſe examination, they ſaw ſome ſparks of fire iſſue from a veſſel, filled with blacking diſſolved with oil of hemp ſeed. This engaged the Admiral Commandant at Cronſtadt to make an experiment, which was tried with like blacking and oil of hemp; they put four pounds of blacking in a tub, on which was poured thirty-five pounds of oil of hemp, which were left to mix for the ſpace of an hour, at the expiration of which the oil was poured off, leaving the remains of the blacking expoſed to the air for four hours more in the tub, which was then wrapped up in a hammock, tied cloſe all round it, and then placed in a cloſe room well ſhut up. At the end of thirteen hours, a thick ſmoke aroſe in the chamber; and when the door was opened, and the freſh air gave directly againſt the hammock, the whole was immediately enflamed.

"After ſeveral experiments of this kind, repeated by the orders of the College of Admiralty; the reſult was, "That blacking, mixed with oil, principally that of Ruſſia, kept in a room, or any other cloſe ſhut place, will infallibly take fire, at the end of ſome hours."

"This police think themſelves obliged to make this public to the public, that every one may be guarded againſt negligence, of whoſe terrible conſequences they may be ignorant."

The proclamation has not aſcertained the particular ſpecies of blacking, but we ſuppoſe from its being in a ſhip's cabbin, it muſt mean that compoſition uſually employed to blacken the ſhip's yards.

The following melancholy accident happened at Spa:—As Mr Rutherford, a gentleman very well known in the polite world, who was ſome years ſince the manager of Covent-garden theatre, and who lately viſited Spa for the recovery of his health, was taking the air on horſeback, the horſe ſuddenly took fright, and overcame all efforts to reſtrain it. Some perſons on the road begged he would throw himſelf off, but, whether from a ſuſpicion that he ſhould be capable of managing the beaſt, or under apprehenſion of danger, he declined it till he was carried near a quantity of ſtones, which it is imagined he miſtook for earth, when he threw himſelf upon them, and, from the violence of the fall, was rendered ſenſeleſs. Every application was ſpeedily adminiſtered, but he continued to be almoſt inſenſible for about ten minutes, and then expired. Having little property with him, his ſervant was obliged to raiſe a contribution amongſt the Engliſh there to bury the corpſe; and after obtaining a conſiderable ſum for that purpoſe, the villain was baſe enough to retreat with it, and leave his maſter's body to the diſpoſal of chance. Some humane perſons, however, exerted themſelves, and promoted another ſubſcription, which was very ſoon ſufficient for the purpoſe, and the body was interred with decency and reſpect.

Our hiſtorical correſpondent obſerves, that it might not be altogether improper for our Miniſtry to proceed againſt our neutral friends in the ſame manner as the Engliſh in the reign of James I. did againſt the King of Spain. An Engliſh merchant having received conſiderable injury from the Spaniards, commenced an action againſt their King, and obtained a verdict in Weſtminſter Hall. The learned Mr Selden was counſel for the merchant, and Sir Edward Coke was Chief Juſtice. But after judgment was entered, the difficulty lay in putting it in execution, for there was not a bailiff in England who would venture to go to Madrid, to arreſt the King. It was therefore agreed, that the Spaniſh Monarch ſhould be declared an outlaw, and then the Count Gondamer, his Ambaſſador at London, paid the money. And the reaſon was, that unleſs he had done ſo, the Spaniſh merchants could not recover debts in this country. If therefore the neutral ſtates of Europe will continue to oppreſs our merchants, let them commence actions againſt their ſovereigns, and probably they will obtain ſatisfaction.

The ſame correſpondent obſerves, that we ſhould endeavour to defeat our enemy, but not deſpiſe them, leſt we be overtaken in ſecurity, and treated with contempt. We all know what happened a few years ago in America; but the following ſtory may perhaps be more entertaining: Once upon a time a Spaniſh Don was lying on his death-bed, and his confeſſor, in order to work him up to repentance, told him how the devil tormented ſinners in hell. The Spaniard, in order to curry ſome favour, called out, "the devil! [illegible] me (ſaid the Don) for calling him ſo; I know not into what hands I may fall, and if into his, I hope he will uſe me the better, giving him good names." This will apply to our military and naval officers in general. Let them fight the enemy, but never boaſt of their courage, till they have obtained ſignal ſucceſs, and even then let them remember that they muſt fight again.

A gentleman, of whom De la Motte rented a houſe in the country, has given the following particulars concerning him:

"He was the laſt perſon I ſhould have ſuſpected, as he ſpoke very little Engliſh, and was not a man of application. Hence I imagine there were others concerned in the conſpiracy. His perſon was graceful, and his manners engaging. He had an elegant Engliſh lady, who paſſed for his niece, and the wife of an officer in America. He had alſo an Engliſh ſervant in an elegant livery. He converſed with me frequently in the garden, with the frankneſs and politeneſs of the accompliſhed gentleman, but never invited me in doors, which I imputed to the delicacy of his connection with the lady. They neither viſited nor admitted a ſingle perſon. He walked about with an air of unconcern, and often ſpent hours and whole days in angling in a fine piece of water in my garden adjoining to the weſtern road, in ſight of the numerous frequenters of that great thoroughfare. I could not imagine that a man, ſo apparently thoughtleſs and inactive, could be capable of ſo great a crime; and that while he was impreſſing my mind with reverence for his perſonal accompliſhments, he was plunging a dagger in the bowels of my country. He was a month in my houſe, and would have been five more but for a little accident. There was great familiarity between him and his footman, which I then aſcribed to the confidence which men of gallantry neceſſarily place in their ſervants, but which I have ſince had reaſon to believe was owing to his being an accomplice in diſguiſe. This man, who is ſince dead, having forgot himſelf, I ſhewed him the impropriety of his conduct, which brought his maſter to his aſſiſtance. De la Motte, who was not a man of courage, was a violent man, as all cowards are, like the village cur. This fracas unmaſked De la Motte, and detected his accompliſhments, which were ſuperficial and temporary. Although I was too generous to take advantage of their indiſcretion, yet the apprehenſion had ſuch an effect on their minds, that De la Motte, with the greateſt anxiety, offered a country Juſtice a ſack of money to take his parts which being refuſed, with an honeſt indignation, they decamped in the night, and never returned, leaving a maid in poſſeſſion of the premiſſes for two or three months; until his attorney ſurrendered the poſſeſſion with as much loſs to me as it had been kept with diſgrace."

TOY-SHOP,
Front of the Exchange, EDINBURGH,

MR JOHNSTON recommends to the Public a few very handſome FOWLING-PIECES, Tower-proof barrels, which may be proved again if deſired, mounted with ſilver, ſteel, and pinchbeck, warranted good, from three to five guineas; a few Double Barrels, at eight guineas. He is provided with the beſt Battered Powder and Shot of all kinds, Powder and Spirit Flaſks, Shot-Bags, and Fowling-Nets, with every Article for ſportſmens uſe.

Mr JOHNSTON has got ſome Tea-Vaſes, Plated Candleſticks, Bread-Baſkets, Knives and Forks, and many other Goods, that he wiſhes to ſell off cheap.

LONDON GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY, *Aug.* 9.

Admiralty-Office, Auguſt 9, 1781.

LIEUTENANT Rivett, of his Majeſty's cutter the Surprize, arrived here this afternoon, with a letter from Vice-Admiral Parker to Mr Stephens, of which the following is a copy.

Fortitude, at ſea, Auguſt 6, 1781.

SIR,

YESTERDAY morning we fell in with the Dutch ſquadron, with a large convoy, on the Dogger Bank. I was happy to find I had the wind of them, as the great number of their large frigates might otherwiſe have endangered my convoy. Having ſeparated the men of war from the merchant ſhips, and made a ſignal to the laſt to keep their wind, I bore away with a general ſignal to chace. The enemy formed their line, conſiſting of eight two decked ſhips, on the ſtarboard tack; ours, including the Dolphin, conſiſted of ſeven. Not a gun was fired on either ſide, until within the diſtance of half muſquet ſhot. The Fortitude then being a-breaſt of the Dutch Admiral, the action began, and continued, with an unceaſing fire, for three hours and forty minutes; by this time our ſhips were unmanageable. I made an effort to form the line, in order to renew the action, but found it impracticable. The Bienfaiſant had loſt his main-top-maſt, and the Buffalo his fore-yard; the reſt of the ſhips were not leſs ſhattered in their maſts, rigging, and ſails: The enemy appeared to be in as bad a condition. Both ſquadrons lay-to a conſiderable time near each other, when the Dutch, with their convoy, bore away for the Texel: We were not in a condition to follow them.

His Majeſty's officers and men behaved with great bravery, nor did the enemy ſhew leſs gallantry. The Fortitude was extremely well ſeconded by Captain Macartney in the Princeſs Amelia; but he was unfortunately killed early in the action: Lieutenant Hill has great merit, in ſo well ſupporting the conduct of his brave Captain.

As there was great probability of our coming into action again, Captain Macbride very readily obliged me by taking the command of that ſhip; and I have appointed Mr Waghorne, my firſt Lieutenant, to the command of the Artois. This gentleman, although much hurt in the action, refuſed to leave my ſide while it laſted. Captain Græme, of the Preſton, has loſt an arm.

Incloſed, I tranſmit a return of the killed and wounded, and an account of the damages ſuſtained by the ſhips.

The enemy's force was, I believe, much ſuperior to what their Lordſhips apprehended. I flatter myſelf they will be ſatisfied that we have done all that was poſſible with our's.

I am, Sir,
Your moſt obedient
and moſt humble ſervant,
H. PARKER.

P. S. The frigates this morning diſcovered one of the Dutch men of war ſunk in 22 fathom water, her top gallant maſts were above the ſurface, and her pendant ſtill flying; which Captain Patton has ſtruck and brought to me on board. I believe ſhe was the ſecond ſhip in the line, of 74 guns.

A Return of the killed and wounded in the action on the 5th of Auguſt, 1781.

	Number of Men		Total.
	killed	wounded	
Bienfaiſant,	6	21	27
Berwick,	18	58	76
Princeſs Amelia,	19	56	75
Preſton,	10	40	50
Buffalo,	20	64	84
Dolphin,	11	33	44
	104	339	443

OFFICERS.

Fortitude. Lieutenants Waghorn, Harrington, Hinckley, the Boatſwain and Pilot, wounded.

Bienfaiſant. Gunner wounded.

Berwick. Lieutenants Skipſey and Maxwell, Captain Campbell and Lieutenant Stewart of Marines, and ſix Midſhipmen, wounded; Pilot and two Midſhipmen killed.

Princeſs Amelia. Captain Macartney and Gunner killed; Lieutenants Hill, Smith, and Legget, wounded.

Preſton. Captain Græme, and third Lieutenant wounded.

Buffalo. Firſt Lieutenant and Boatſwain wounded.

Dolphin. Lieutenant Dalby killed; Boatſwain wounded.

N. B. Lieutenant Rivett relates, that the homeward bound trade from the Baltic, conſiſting of upwards of 100 ſail, proceeded on their way to England, under proper convoy, before the action began, and may be hourly expected. Admiral Parker's ſquadron, at the time of the action, conſiſted of the under-mentioned ſhips and frigates, viz.

Guns.	Ships.	Commanders.
74	Fortitude	Vice-Admiral Parker, Captain Robertſon
80	Princeſs Amelia	—— Macartney
74	Berwick	—— Ferguſon
64	Bienfaiſant	—— Braithwaite
60	Buffalo	—— Truſcott
50	Preſton	—— Græme
44	Dolphin	—— Blair
40	Artois	—— M'Bride
38	Latona	—— Sir Hyde Parker
36	Belle Poule	—— Patton
32	Cleopatra	—— Murray
10	Surprize (Cutter)	Lieutenant Rivett

From the London Papers, Aug. 9.

LONDON.

Yeſterday evening an officer arrived at the Admiralty, with diſpatches from Lord Rawdon, at Charleſtown, brought over in the Prince William Henry packet boat. She ſailed from thence the 5th of July, and brings advice of an action having happened near Savannah, in which our troops had been defeated and that the town was in the greateſt diſtreſs. The reinforcement which Lord Rawdon had received under convoy of the Warwick, had enabled him to relieve Auguſta, which was ſurrendering, but Green's army conſiſted of upwards of eight thouſand men, and was encreaſed daily. They had received an account at Charleſtown of Penſacola being taken, which had induced Lord Rawdon to ſend a reinforcement to Georgia, as there was great reaſon to believe that the Spaniards meant to aſſiſt the Americans in an attack againſt that place. Upon the whole, our affairs in that quarter ſeem to wear an exceeding gloomy aſpect. A fleet was expected to ſail from Charleſtown the latter end of July. *Engl. Chron.*

The mail from Charleſtown will not be up till late this evening, ſo that no letters can poſſibly be got at till to-morrow.

A rumour prevailed yeſterday in the city, that overtures of a pacific nature had been made on the part of Congreſs, but the terms are not mentioned.

We are informed, that Admiral Darby, with the fleet under his command, are making the beſt of their way to Gibraltar. Admiral Digby is with him. The whole of his force does not exceed twenty-five ſail of the line, yet, as they are the flower of the navy, twelve of them three-deckers, and all of them moſt completely officered and manned, he will give the combined fleets battle, if they dare to meet him, although they are far ſuperior in number.

The Ruſſian fleet, which ſailed lately for the Mediterranean, are ſaid to be gone for Mahon; ſhould the French make any attempts on the iſland while they continue there, a commencement of hoſtilities, and a war between the two powers will be the conſequence.

The Eaſt India Company have obtained leave to raiſe a regiment of Highlanders in Scotland, to be ſent to their ſettlements

Letters from Paris give an account of the arrival of the Emperor of Germany in that city.

A very ſingular and affecting caſe is now depending in the Court of Chancery; it was in part argued on Friday laſt, before the Lord Chancellor in Lincoln's-Inn Hall. One of the guardians of a young lady, whoſe name was Grierſon, from Mancheſter, and lately at boarding-ſchool at Batterſea, (about four miles from London) in the 16th year of her age, and a ward of that Court, brought her ſuit againſt a young gentleman of the name of Williamſon, a Captain in the navy, for marrying the young lady at GRETNA GREEN, in Scotland, and thereby incurring a contempt; for which he was finally committed to the Fleet Priſon. When the ſentence was paſſed, the young lady, who was in Court ſtanding near her huſband, and whoſe beauty and unaffected modeſty captivated the eyes of every ſpectator, fainted away, from which ſhe was with difficulty recovered, when ſhe immediately fell into ſtrong fits, in which condition ſhe was carried off. Such an unuſual picture of diſtreſs drew tears from every eye. The Judge on the bench was obſerved to dry his eyes more than once. His anſwer to the enquiry was, he knew not whether ſuch marriages were agreeable either to the laws of earth or heaven; and therefore referred it for enquiry to the Maſter in Chancery.

On Friday evening ſeveral of the moſt eminent counſel waited on the Lord Chancellor, at his houſe, ſetting forth the lamentable ſituation of the young lady, whoſe life is deſpaired of. His Lordſhip declared, he wiſhed moſt ſincerely to relieve the diſtreſſed couple, and if they would point out a mode in which it might be done, conſiſtent with the duty of an equitable judge, he would moſt willingly adopt the meaſure. The conſequence of this was, on Saturday morning an order that the Captain ſhould be reſtricted to the rules of the Fleet Priſon, and that his lady be with him, till a meſſenger, (ſent to Scotland) arrives with an account of the reality of the marriage. Mrs Williamſon continues to be dangerouſly ill, and without any hopes of recovery.

Her guardians are, by her father's will, her mother, a friend, and an uncle. One of the relations, who is the next heir in caſe of the lady's deceaſe before him, is the appellant; the young officer's character having been irreproachable.

Thurſday laſt ended the aſſizes at Saliſbury for the county of Wilts, at which place there was the moſt *niſi prius* buſineſs that ever was known at one aſſize, there having been 121 cauſes entered for bribery (only) in 115 of which Samuel Petrie, Eſq; was plantiff, againſt Lord Portcheſter, and 115 electors of the borough of Cricklade, for bribery and corruption at the laſt general election for that place, and when after three days trial, verdicts were obtained for Mr Petrie, in the two actions againſt Lord Portcheſter for 7000 l. and in the other actions (againſt the electors) 82 verdicts were alſo obtained for Mr Petrie, to the amount of 41,000 l. In the ſix recriminating cauſes brought by Lord Portcheſter, and the preſent ſitting members, againſt Mr Petrie, and three of the electors, verdicts were obtained for the plantiffs for 6000 l. in the whole. A verdict was alſo obtained by Mr Petrie againſt the agent of Lord Portcheſter at the laſt ſpring aſſize, for 5000 l. which makes the whole verdicts recovered by Mr Petrie at the two aſſizes, amount to 53,000 l.

OPINION on the COURT MARTIAL,

Appointed to try the gallant Captain Pakenham at Portſmouth, for having ſtruck the colours of his Majeſty's ſhip Creſcent, in a late engagement with the Briele Dutch frigate.

The Court are unanimouſly of opinion, that the Hon. Capt. Pakenham throughout the action, in a variety of inſtances, behaved with the cooleſt and ableſt judgment, and with the firmeſt and moſt determined reſolution, and that he did not ſtrike the Creſcent's colours until he was totally unable to make the ſmalleſt defence; the Court, therefore, doth unanimouſly and honourably acquit the Hon. Captain Pakenham. The Court cannot diſmiſs Captain Pakenham without expreſſing their admiration of his conduct on this occaſion, wherein he has manifeſted the ſkill of an able and judicious ſeaman, and the intrepidity of a gallant officer; and from the great and extraordinary number of killed and wounded on board the Creſcent, as well as the ſtate ſhe was in at the time of her ſurrender, the Court expreſs their higheſt approbation of the ſupport given by the officers and men of the Creſcent to their Captain, and of their courage and ſteadineſs during the action; a circumſtance that, at the ſame time it reflects high honour on them, does no leſs credit and honour to the diſcipline kept up by Captain Pakenham.

Extract of a letter from Weymouth, Aug. 9.

"This afternoon came into Portland road his Majeſty's ſhip Cerberus, and the Queen armed ſhip, with about forty ſail of veſſels under convoy bound to Corke, and were proceeding with a fair wind, till they fell in with his Majeſty's ſhip Hector, Sir John Hamilton commander, who informed them, that yeſterday morning he diſcovered off the Berry-head three line-of-battle ſhips, three frigates, and a ſnow, which, from their appearance and ſignals, he was convinced were not Engliſh.

"The Hector came from Jamaica, and was under jury maſts."

Admiralty-Office, Aug. 6. 1781.

Copy of a letter from Lieutenant John M'Dougall, Commander of his Majeſty's cutter, the Flying Fiſh, to Mr Stephens, dated Whitby Roads, Aug 1. 1781.

"BE pleaſed to acquaint my Lords Commiſſioners of the Admiralty, that at half paſt nine A. M. Whitby bearing weſt, diſtance about ſix leagues, I gave chace to a cutter ſtanding in for the ſhore, and ſoon after perceived her to be in chace of me, till ſhe got almoſt within gun-ſhot, and then hauled her wind; at ten minutes paſt ten I got within piſtol-ſhot, when it fell calm; ſo that I was obliged to work the veſſel with my ſweeps.——At fifteen minutes paſt eleven, I brought her to action, which continued, at that diſtance, till 10 minutes paſt one P. M. when ſhe ſtruck to his Majeſty's colours. On boarding her, I found her to be the Maro Deun, belonging to Dunkirk, of fourteen 6 and 4 pounders, and ſeventy-four men, commanded by M. Cornus. I had only one man killed, and nine wounded during the action; the enemy had four men killed, and ten wounded.

"N. B. The Flying Fiſh had ſixty men, and twelve carriage-guns, 3 pounders."

PRICES of CORN at CORN EXCHANGE, Aug. 6.

Wheat, 29 a 48 s.	Boiling Peas, 28 s.
Rye, 18 a 21 s.	Tick Beans, 18 a 21 s.
Oats, 11 a 15 s.	Small ditto, 20 a 23 s.
Barley, 14 a 16 s.	Tares, 20 a 26 s.
Malt, 24 a 27 s.	Flour, 40 s. per ſack.
Grey Peaſe, 19 a 24 s.	Second ſort, 38 s.
White ditto, 25 a 26 s.	Rape Seed, 16 l. per laſt.

EDINBURGH.

Extract of a letter from London, Aug. 9.

"The Charleſtown packet brings an account, that Lord Rawdon's rear-guard had come up in the late engagement with the rear of General Green's army, and that he had, after a ſhort conflict, driven him out of the province of South Carolina.

"Lord Rawdon is the eldeſt ſon of the preſent Earl of Maira, and is only in the 27th year of his age. If his Lordſhip ſhould ſurvive his father, and his uncle, the Earl of Huntingdon, he will be one of the richeſt Earls in the three kingdoms.

"A letter from New-York, arrived by the laſt packet. To ſuch a ſituation is General Wallace now reduced, that his army have neither tents nor clothing, money nor proviſions, ammunition nor ſpirits. They are in the laſt ſtate of deſpair; the officers, each ſucceeding day, dreading a revolt of all the troops."

The following is a pretty accurate account of the Spaniſh fleet in Weſt Indies.

	Ships.	*Guns.*	*Commanders.*
*	El Arrogante,	70	Don Felix Lopez Curicoſa.
*	El Gallardo	70	D. G. Favala.
*	St Auguſtine,	70	D. Juan Saglaracia.
*	St Francis De Pablo,	70	D. Domingo Granelane.
*	St Francis D'Aſſiſe,	70	D. J. Domus.
*	El San Lewis,	80	L. G. Don Solano Chaff D'Eſcadre
*	El San Nicholas,	80	D. J. Thomas, ditto.
*	El Dragon,	70	D. Pedro Augeran.
*	El Guevero,	78	D. Fredel D'Eſleba.
*	El St Guears,	70	D. Felix Texada.
	El Neupomeccue,	70	—— now at the Havannah.
	El San Raymond,	70	Ditto.
	El Tonante,	80	Don Carlos Geenufare.
*	El Vilaſco,	70	Don Santiago d' Vilaſes.
		FRIGATES.	
	St Audehanſia,	32	Now at the Havannah.
	N. San Dai Oras,	26	Ditto.
	El Relombrade,	36	Don Pablo Montego.
*	San Cecilia,	34	Don Auguſtine Monceda.
*	Sante Roſalie,	34	Don Antonio Jacon.
*	La Chambequire,	30	Don Nicholas Magdone.
	La San Martha,	26	Don J. Charreralie.
	La San Matilda,	27	Don J. Minagure.
*	St Galles,	16	A Packet-boat.
*	El Cornwallis,	10	Longre.
	El Queros,	10	Ditto.

Thoſe marked thus * ſailed with Don Solano in April 1780. The others were at the Havannah before.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in St Andrews, to his [illegible]

"It is with much ſatisfaction I inform you, that we are likely to be ſoon plentifully ſupplied with good water, the only thing almoſt that we wanted to make living here comfortable. Our ſubſcription is going on ſo well, that we are in great hopes we ſhall be able to bring it in lead pipes; and, at a General Meeting of the Truſtees, held this day, we have choſen, as a Committee of Managers, the Provoſt, Dean of Guild, and Deacon Convener, ſome of the country gentlemen to whoſe generoſity we are on this occaſion much indebted, with ſeveral members of the Univerſity, in all eleven. Under the adminiſtration of a Committee ſo very reſpectable, we have no doubt, that this object, ſo conducive to the health and comfort of the inhabitants, will be ſoon accompliſhed."

By a letter received this day from London, we are informed, that, in the action between Admiral Parker and the Dutch fleet, he had ſunk one 74 gun ſhip, drove the reſt to the Texel, had ſcattered the convoy, and that a number of our privateers were in chace of them. The ſhips of both fleets were ſo diſabled, that they lay looking at each other for two hours after the action.

By a letter from Stirling we lean, that his Majeſty's confirmation of the Magiſtrates lately elected there by poll, was received on Friday laſt.

This was obſerved as the birth-day of his Royal Highneſs the Prince of Wales, yeſterday being Sunday. In the forenoon, the Muſic bells were ſet aringing; about one o'clock, a number of young gentlemen, who have for ſome time been learning their manual exerciſe, aſſembled in Comely Garden, under the command of one of the officers, and the reſpective ſerjeants of the 25th, who taught them, when, after going through the uſual manœuvres, they fired three vollies in honour of the day. They afterwards dined together in Fortune's. The evening will conclude with a brilliant aſſembly.

The Thames, Grindlay, from the Frith of Forth for the Baltic, ſaid to be taken by a Dunkirk privateer, was falſe. By a letter from the maſter, dated the 21ſt July, from the Sonad, ſhe was ſafe arrived there, without ſeeing any privateers.

All the Baltic ſhips, nine in number, belonging to Newcaſtle, arrived there on Wedneſday laſt.

The veſſel which is arrived at Moriſon's haven, is the Friendſhip of that port, Alexander Gullon, from Oporto, with wine, oil, and cork.

Yeſterday afternoon, one William Weſt a poulterer, having got up upon the weſt parapet wall of the new bridge, was ſeized with a fit, and falling to the bottom, was killed on the ſpot. The height is upwards of an hundred feet.

The company at the Regatta on Baſſenthwaite Lake, Cumberland, laſt Wedneſday ſe'nnight, was very numerous, and by much the moſt genteel of any that has been aſſembled on the like occaſion. Six boats were entered for the prize, but only four ſtarted—the conteſt was for a conſiderable time dubious—at laſt, however, the boat from Allonby took the lead, and keeping it, came in victorious:—two boats from Whitehaven came in ſecond and third. At 3 o'clock, the genteel part of the company ſat down to a very elegant cold entertainment at Mr Birbeck's, at Ouſebridge, accompanied with an excellent band of muſick. At 5, the Steward, attended by a number of gentlemen, proceeded in his barge to the middle of the Lake; the horſes that were entered to ſwim for the *Sweepſtakes* were brought *along ſide of him.*

The *odds* went first very high in favour of a horse belonging to William Dacre, Esq; of Kirklington; but unfortunately, when it was almost *in the arms of victory*, a part of the company that was assembled on the shore, could not refrain from expressing their joy in terms which so terrified the poor animal, that he *wheeled about* and *directed his course immediately back again*: By this *unlucky manœuvre*, a horse belonging to Tho. Storey, Esq; High-Sheriff of Cumberland, first set his foot on *terra firma*. A horse belonging to the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Surrey came *out* second. This new and uncommon diversion afforded the company much entertainment.

We hear from Errol, that at the public market lately held there, a riot was raised by several persons, stiling themselves *The Wool Club of Errol*, who proceeded to the shop possessed by sundry dealers in wool, and, in a most tumultuous manner, violently seized the bags of wool and unpacked them; at the same time, they carried off a part thereof, and maltreated the proprietors in such a manner that they were obliged to leave their goods to the mercy of the mob. The cause of these illegal proceedings, we understand, was, that this club were resolved to monopolize the sale of wool, and to prevent any who were not combined with them in their association, from disposing thereof, and that they might thereby have it in their power to demand what prices they thought proper to make.—We hope proper cognizance will be taken of such attrocious acts, as it must be a very great loss to this country, if any set of men should be suffered to monopolize a branch of trade so material to the support of this part of the united kingdom."

In the trial of John Craig, late change-keeper at Quarreltown, at present prisoner in the tolbooth of Paisley, mentioned in our paper of the 4th inst. the Jury returned a verdict, "unanimously finding the pannel *guilty* of resetting the stolen "silk and bobbins libelled, and habite and repute a resetter of "stolen silk." But, in respect of his age, and the infirm state of his health, recommended him to the mercy of the Court. In consideration of which, the Sheriff-depute ordained him to be re-committed to prison till Thursday the 6th of September next, and then to be brought forth to the pillory, there to stand for a full hour, at mid-day, with a label on his breast, having these words written in large characters, *INFAMOUS RESETTER OF STOLEN SILK*; and the day following to be perpetually banished the county of Renfrew, under the usual certifications.

The many crimes of this nature, which are so frequently committed in that place and neighbourhood, to the great prejudice of the fair trader, call loudly for public examples. And when shop-keepers and other dealers hear of so many frauds of that kind, they ought to be upon their guard, not to buy such goods from hawkers, or other persons, with whom they are totally unacquainted. It is in a great measure owing to that improper encouragement, which they shamefully meet with from many shopkeepers, that these fraudulent persons carry on their unlawful traffic to so great an extent, and with so much advantage. And it is to be wished, that the present example of public punishment and disgrace may have the desired effect to prevent others from such unlawful practices.

Extract of a letter from Dublin, Aug. 6.

"By letters from many parts of the kingdom we are informed, that the most plentiful crops of all sorts of grain are to be expected. Our seasons for some years past, resemble the benignity of more southern climates. It is one essential happiness, therefore, that however Ireland hath been a while distressed from a languid commerce and lowness of mercantile credit, that her soil hath yielded her a most beautiful return of the immediate necessaries of life.

"Letters from Bourdeaux, Nantz, and Rochelle, received this week by several merchants of this city, advise, that a general and most strict embargo had been laid on all shipping in them, and all the western ports of France, the 20th of June last, which still existed the 17th of July, the date of the last letters; from which advice, the authenticity of which there can be no doubt of, we may confidently conclude, some capital naval expedition is projected by the enemy, against the trade or possessions of Great Britain.

"A few days ago, the long depending cause, wherein the owners of the Shilelah privateer, of Dublin, were plaintiffs, and Morgan and Marther, claimants of the cargo laden on board the Victoria, brought into this harbour by said privateer, in August 1779, was determined by the Lords Commissioners in London, on an appeal from a sentence of the judge of the Admiralty in Ireland; when the decree was reversed in favour of the claimants. The property is estimated at upwards of 30,000l.

"Since orders have been sent by the commissioners of the revenue, to the surveyors and land waiters of the out ports, to double their diligence to detect and prevent the importations of manufactured goods under false denominations, in order to evade the payment of his Majesty's duties, numberless are the attempts made here to smuggle every species of foreign manufacture. The last attempt, which was detected, was on Thursday, when a quantity of muslins, shawls, &c. &c. to a very considerable amount, were found concealed in the folds of English woolen and cotton goods, and seized by one of the land waiters on the Custom-house quay.

Extract of a letter from Dublin, August 7.

"A nobleman who has for some years made a conspicuous figure in the political theatres of both Kingdoms, has declared his intention to move, in his place, in our Upper House, the first week of our ensuing session of Parliament, "That the proper officer lay before the House an account of the appeals, "if any, that have been made from the decree or decrees of "any of his Majesty's courts of Justice in Ireland, and by "whom, since the 12th of October 1779, to the House of "Lords in England, as also the names of the solicitors or counsel employed by the appellants in the case." And when such an account shall be made to the House, his Lordship will propose three resolutions, expressing their sense thereon, and inflicting the highest degree of punishment and censure on the offenders, for the said flagrant breach of privilege.

"Fifty carts are actually employed in bringing stones for the new Custom-House, the first stone of which will be laid to-morrow at eleven o'clock. This morning, we hear, orders were issued to one of the regiments in garrison to attend to-morrow at the foundation of the new Custom-House, to prevent any riot or disturbance that might happen there on the occasion.

"Curiosity is not a little up, in respect to the person that will come forward to lay the first stone of the new Custom-House. He must be a bold man who will venture at present the displeasure of nine-tenths of the city. It is imagined, therefore, the stone will be smuggled down by night; and that the layer of it will not be known before the arrival; at least, of the King's answer to address of the Citizens and Merchants of Dublin.

"By a vessel from Portugal, arrived last week at Cork, we learn, that it was with the utmost difficulty he came through the Bay of Biscay (which course he was obliged to steer on account of easterly winds) from the opposition he met continually from the number of French cutters and sloops of war with which the sea was covered from Cape Finisterre to Ushant, every one of which asked the Master in a most particular manner, whether he had seen the Grand Combined Fleet, whose appearance they said was hourly expected by them?

"A young nobleman of this kingdom, who is now in London, paid a visit, a few days since, to our very honoured and patriotic countryman, the E—l of H—lif—gh. "Come, my Lord, said the Irish minister, let us have some news from Ireland; but, for the love of God, don't tell me any about the Volunteers, I am sick and deaf with them!" "Its a pity then, replied the other, that you were not at Hillsborough the day of the Belfast review; for if the smell of the Volunteer powder had not cured your disorder, the report of their cannon would have at least restored your hearing."

The following *seasonable* intelligence is just arrived:

Extract of a letter from his Excellency General Puppy to the Honourable collared Pointers in Kennel assembled.

"*May it please your Dogships,*

"I have the honour to inform you, that having undoubted intelligence of the enemy being encamped on the mountains to the north, we marched in quest of them Sunday evening, and prepared next morning for a general engagement. A great fog, however, coming on, we were much *mist*-aken as to the distance of the enemy.

"The vanguard marching on with great silence and caution, *pointed* towards the enemy; and, as it fortunately cleared up about a quarter past eleven, we saw the enemy *fly* on our approach in great precipitancy and disorder. The powder, however, (being a job of the contractors) did not serve, so that we did less execution than if it had been of a proper quality. The slaughter among the enemy was very considerable, but the number of killed and *—winged* is not yet ascertained.

"I am happy to inform you, that the loss on our side was inconsiderable; Lieutenant Dantzick, by the bursting of a Liege piece of ordnance, lost three of his fingers. A double Carronade, being improperly loaded, gave way; by which means, in bursting, the splinters wounded Major Nitre, Ensign Sulphur, and Serjeant Charcoal.

"Much are we indebted to Colonel Cæsar and Major Pompey, for their intrepidity during the action. The troops, in general, manifested the greatest ardour in the attack; and I assure you, upon the whole, that never did Dogs behave better.

"This will be delivered you by Lieutenant Turnspit, whom I have dispatched with the intelligence. He merits your regard, and signalized himself greatly at the close of the action.

"I have the honour to subscribe myself,

Your Dogship's most obedient, and very humble servant,

From our Head-Quarters at PUPPY."

Heath Camp, 13th August.

"*P. S.* There was a mutiny on the Saturday preceding; but, after reading the *game act*, it was soon suppressed."

To the Printer of the Caledonian Mercury.

SIR,

IN a Pamphlet entitled, *An enquiry into the Authenticity of the Poems ascribed to Ossian*, having read the following passage, p. 45.——"Mr Smith mentions Dr Percy's Reliques of ancient Poetry, in which he says, the Doctor confesseth, that he himself heard pieces of it recited; and being compared with the translation, exactly corresponded. Dr Percy does not understand a syllable of the Earse, and therefore could be no judge. The truth is, Dr Blair and Professor Ferguson, when Dr Percy was at Edinburgh, took care to introduce a young student from the Highlands, who repeated some verses, of which Professor Ferguson said such and such sentences in Fingal were the translation." To prevent any inferences which might be drawn from my silence, I think it material to declare, that the above passage, so far as it relates to me, is altogether false; and that I never was present at the repetition of verses to Dr Percy by a young student from the Highlands.

ADAM FERGUSON.

Edinburgh, July 21, 1781.

FOR THE CALEDONIAN MERCURY.

BRITANNIA's COMPLAINT.

[*Wrote in America*, 1774.]

WHERE Seraphs laud, and angels high adore,
And fouls of Chiefs the public loss deplore,
Britannia stood, revolving on her state,
With mein disturb'd, each attitude and gate;
Her trident shatter'd, and her wheel depress'd,
And these, with wailing and with sighs, express'd;
Her Walsingham and Cecil, of her train,
And Hampden's shade, who fell on Chalgrave's plain;
Her Sidneys both, and many patriots more,
And great Nassau, who fixt fair Freedom's lore:

"Lo! out my realm some dreadful evil springs,
"To me portentive, and the state of Kings:
"By laws * oppress'd, and an exclusive trade,
"My duteous offspring now rebellions made;
"Made alien foes! and all disjunct their climes,
"I must decline! fall'n martyr to bad times!
"My senate factious, and my statesmen rude,
"My rights neglected, and the public good;
"See half the globe turn from my parent sway,
"Through domination and unnat'ral fray;
"And fire with son in civil war involv'd,
"As had Bourbon such fell revenge resolv'd:
"The few unheeded who could serve the state,
"My hosts inactive, and the foe elate!

"And, see my son! whom distant nations dread,
"As prime of statesmen, both in heart and head;
"Who me extoll'd, my glory spread and fame,
"My arms victorious, and rever'd my name;
"To list'ning senates pour out life's last plaint
"(With nerves unstrung, and heart oppress'd and faint,)
"For our sunk state, sunk to the shades of death,
"And wail his country with his dying breath!
"Death paus'd—then prais'd—sooth'd by such eloquence,
"And, him extolling, bore the statesman thence:

"Fame gave acclaim, My grateful sons a tear;
"And noble blood, and Princes tend his bier.

"Throughout all ages, Vict'ry held her mine,
"But not so martial as in Fifty-nine,
"When east and west confess'd my ample sway,
"And none declin'd to me, or mine, obey;
"My sons my strength, my colonists my friends!
"But now, alas! *this* glorious period ends!
"And, Oh! alas, *that* glorious æra's o'er;
"The virtuous Chatham guides my lance no more!

"Ye whose hearts glow'd with purest patriot flame,
"Whose virtuous deeds recorded are by fame;
"Who spread my banners on the Gallic field,
"The statesman greet, and due precedence yield,
"When he shall visit your aerial climes,
"And leave my realms a prey to wicked times,
"To bias'd statesmen, and to coward braves!
"The tools of Gallia, and the slaves of slaves!"

Thus Britain mourn'd: Her grateful sons deplore
That virtuous Chatham rules the realm no more;
And just to merit, and his claim to fame,
With Walsingham record the statesman's name.
Heaven's hosts were mute, and grief reign'd up above,
(Their bliss disturb'd who dwell in heavenly love)
When on the ear the angel trump of Fame,
The statesman usher'd with a loud acclaim;
Heaven's myriads hail'd him to the bless'd demesne,
With virtuous statesmen, and with George, to reign. B.

* *Vide* nine acts of Parliament.

ORKNEY SHIPPING.

Sailed from Stromness.

Aug. 1. Addison, Banks; Freelove, Brown; Chantr. Emily; Harriot, Been; Volunteer, Boys; Malborgh, Franks; Priscilla, Franks; all of and from Whitby and Shields, from Straitdavis.

2. His Majesty's cutters Royal George, Ogilvie, and Royal Charlotte, Capt. Air, on a cruize.

Remain in said harbour, Aug. 3.

Sapho of Kirkwall, Fotheringham, for Newry.
Meanwell of Portloy, Brand, for Dublin.
Batchelor of and for Stornaway, Mackenzie, from Leith.

LEITH SHIPPING.

Arrived,

Aug. 13. Speedwell, Lumsden, from Hamburgh, with goods.
Expedition, Adamson, from ditto, with ditto.
Twee Gebroeders, from ditto, with flax staves, &c.
Annies, Morrison, from ditto, with goods.
Jean, Barr, from Inverkeithing, with malt.
Sisters, Cruikshanks, from ditto, in ballast.
James's, Sommervell, from Newcastle, with goods.
Rachell, Clouston, from Lynn, with oats.
Three Brothers, Whitson, from Frederick's-hall, with dales.
Generous Mind, Knight, from Kincaple, with whisky.
Jean, Brown, from Glasgow in ballast.
Friendship, Goolan, from Oporto, with wine and cork.
Sloup Coepo, Neilson, from Gottenburgh, with dales & iron.
Expedition, Goodspan, from Dunbar, with malt.

Saturday, August 11.

LOST,

A DARK BROWN and WHITE POINTER BITCH, having a collar with the Earl of Lauderdale's name upon it.—Also, on Tuesday last, a very small TERRIER, of a bluish grey colour, with a white head. Any person who has found either of these is requested to bring it to Mr Walker's tavern, where he will be suitably rewarded.

Orphan Hospital, Aug. 13. 1781.

THE Anniversary Sermon before the President and Corporation of the Orphan Hospital will be preached, by Sir Harry Moncrieff, in Lady Glenorchy's Chapel, on Wednesday next, at eleven o'clock forenoon. The Orphan's Hymn will be sung on that occasion; and the Collection is intended for the benefit of the Hospital. Relying on the beneficence of the Public, the Corporation have this day elected twenty-five poor children into that charity; otherwise their stated funds would not have enabled them to receive so great a number.

The Managers are extremely sensible of the liberal contributions they have received for building a new wing to the Hospital, and acknowledge with particular gratitude, the large donation of 150l. Sterling from the generous authors of the Mirror, by the hands of Henry Mackenzie, Esq; But, as the contributions are yet far short of the sum required, they beg leave to recommend the enlargement of the Hospital to the attention of those who think it a laudable object to relieve indigent Orphans from poverty, vice, and idleness, and to train them up in the principles of religion, virtue, and industry.—Contributions are received by Mr Thomas Tod merchant in Edinburgh, now appointed Treasurer of the Hospital, in the room of Mr Robert Scott Moncrieff, who has resigned, or by any of the Managers, who will grant printed receipts for what they receive, and the names of the donors will be recorded in the books of the Hospital.

DAVID ALLAN Plumber, lately with *Mr Selby*, returns his sincere thanks to those who have employed him in the Plumber way, and hopes for the continuance of their favours.

At the shop in Nicholson's Street, opposite to Mr Gib's Meeting-house, Edinburgh, carries on the Plumber trade in all its branches.—Where also may be had, Engines for raising water to any height, elegant Water-closets, with cream-coloured Basons improved, Hand-force Pumps for clearing pipes, Sheet Lead of any dimensions, with every other article in the plumber way.

Any Noblemen or Gentlemen who are pleased to favour him with their employment, may depend upon having their work done in the best manner, and at the most reasonable rates.

The above Water-closets may be seen by any who are pleased to call at the shop. They are made by none in town but himself.

N. B. Commissions directed for him at the head of Scott's Close, Cowgate, or at the shop in Nicholson's Street, Edinburgh, will be duly attended to.

LEADEN PIPES.

AT a Meeting of Trustees for bringing water into the Town of St Andrews, held on the 8th day of August current, it was determined that it should be done by Leaden Pipes; it is therefore requested, that such persons as with to contract with the trustees for executing the work with leaden pipes, will communicate their proposals and estimates to Stuart Grace town-clerk of St Andrews, betwixt and the first of September next.

N. B. The length of the main pipe may be about 2000 yards; and in its course it has only one hollow to pass, which is near the town.

Not to be repeated.

BY ADJOURNMENT.

TO be SOLD, by public voluntary roup, within the British Coffee-house in Edinburgh, upon Wednesday the 29th August current, at five o'clock afternoon, when the subjects will certainly be sold at what they will yield,

All and haill, a TACK for Three Hundred and thirty years yet to run, of the Mills called *Cullington Barley Mills*, Houses, Kiln, Aqueducts, and others lately built thereon by Campbell Halyburton, which are all new, and in excellent order, together with the haugh-land, braes, and others belonging thereto, pleasantly situated on the east side of the Water of Leith, a little below Cullington Kirk, with good access from Edinburgh and the adjacent country. There is a good well finished house, fit to accommodate a genteel family at the Mills, besides servants houses, stable, and other conveniencies.

The title-deeds and articles of roup are to be seen in the hands of Thomas Rattray writer in Edinburgh.

To the Publisher of the Caledonian Mercury.

SIR,

AS Doctor Monro of London, and others who attend maniac cases, and many bit by mad dogs, may profit hereby, I give the following case, which happened under my inspection, and make no doubt but some of the Faculty may make the experiment on the human species, as well as on brutes, in order to further illustrate so hopeless a disease:

In the month of December 1780, I was sent for to a patient in Jamaica; and, by some mistake, was detained, so as to have sufficient time to make daily observations on a bitch, which was rendered mad by eating parrot bones and bowels, which, though buried, the creature grabbled out of ground, and eat.

The first symptoms (and, indeed, they were constant), were a foolish, drunken, sauntering-like appearance, without any direction or slavering; an howling (nearly horal) night and day out of the bushes; desertion of her whelps; the eye denoted complaint, and looked wistfully for relief, and the flesh and strength wasted; so that, although she drank flour and water nearly every other day, yet she seemed to lose the use of her loins, and could not walk without tumbling down. On the 12th day, she was perfectly innocent; and, from her master's experience in such cases, admitted, at meals, into the great hall, amongst 30 of a family (to my no small terror); and knew her master, and eat out of his hand. I saw the Gentleman, when these symptons first appeared, about some operation on the creature's fore-head; and, informing him of my design to make public so extraordinary a case, for the benefit of mankind, he candidly told me, that a Castilian Gentleman, from Cuba, was at his house when a cat went outrageously mad, by eating parrot bones, and was cured in 24 days, by the simple operation of slitting the integuments longitudinal-wise, scraping the bone, and by dressing daily with black-pepper and salt; and added, that he saw many cured by the same treatment.

The creature was recovered, but not entirely strong, in 25 days. I do not presume to say, that the disease of madness in dogs and cats, arising from eating parrot bones, flesh, or feathers, is the same with all maniac cases, now common: But, from the assurance that cats, whose actions and eyes denoted most furious madness before, have been rendered tractable, and cured, by the above-recited operation and medicines; I may, at least, hope, that good may arise to society from a trial, were it for no other end than to render the furious of the human species tame and tractable; and to prevent dogs from biting, and thereby infecting by their disease.

If the Faculty require more information, the printer hereof is at liberty to direct them to the writer; who will, if needful, procure the Gentleman's attestation thereof, and what he knows further on the subject.

ONE OF THE FACULTY.

Leith Walk, 11th August 1781.

To be SOLD by PRIVATE BARGAIN,

THE Mansion House, Offices, Orchards, Policy, Parks, and Inclosures of

RESTALRIG,

Which belonged to the deceased Alexander Tait, Esq; one of the principal Clerks of Session.

The premisses are all in exceeding good order, most completely inclosed, and a considerable quantity of thriving planting thereon.—The gardens and orchard are extensive, and completely stocked; with a greenhouse, &c.—The whole includes about 22 acres of ground, and lies about a mile to the east of Edinburgh.—The entry to be at Martinmas first. To be shown by the gardener at Restalrig.

ALSO,

To be SOLD, That LODGING in Argyle-Square, with back court and offices, which belonged to, and was last possessed by the said deceased Alexander Tait, Esq.——To be seen on Tuesday and Thursday, betwixt eleven and two o'clock.

For particulars, apply to Alexander Tait writer in Edinburgh, or George Jeffray writer in Edinburgh.

ADJOURNMENT SALE OF LANGLANDS.

THE Roup and Sale of the HALF BARONY OF WILTON, called *LANGLANDS*, lying in the parish of Wilton and county of Roxburgh, in the neighbourhood of the town of Hawick, is ADJOURNED to the 16th of August curt. when the same will go on, as formerly advertised, in whole or in parcels, within the house of Michael Stevenson innkeeper in Hawick, at twelve o'clock mid-day.

The upset price of the whole will be 4000 l. sterling.

The articles and conditions of roup to be seen in the hands of Cornelius Elliot writer to the signet; to whom, or Sir Francis Elliot of Stobs, Bart. near Hawick, any person inclining to make a private bargain may apply.

For LONDON,

THE DILIGENCE,

ANDREW CASSELS Master,

Now lying on the Birth in Leith harbour, taking in goods, and will sail on the 21st curt. with convoy.

This ship has excellent accommodation for passengers.

The Master to be spoke with at the Exchange Coffeehouse, or at the Croft, Edinburgh, betwixt twelve and two o'clock; evenings and mornings at his house in Leith.

For LONDON,

The LOVELY MARY,

WILLIAM BEATSON Master,

Now taking in goods in Leith harbour, and will sail on the 21st curt. with the convoy.

The Master to be spoke with, at 'Change hours, at the Exchange Coffeehouse, or at his house, head of Queen-street, Leith.

N. B. The above ship has neat accommodation for passengers, and the best of usage may be depended on.

For KINGSTON in JAMAICA,

The Ship CERES, John Boyle Master, lying at Port Glasgow, will be ready to take in goods by the 10th instant, and clear to sail the 25th of September.

For freight or passage apply to Allan, Scot, and Douglas in Glasgow, Messr. Douglas and Campbell, or the master at Port Glasgow.

The Ceres is a large ship, is mounted with twelve carriage guns, and will be well manned. She has good accommodation for passengers, and will call at Cork, if a convoy is appointed to sail near the time.

Glasgow, August 1. 1781.

Haddington, August 11. 1781.

WHEREAS, since last night, *Andrew Clark*, by trade a blacksmith or nailer, late servant to James Soones smith in Nungate, of this place, has made an elopement from the house of a poor Widow there, with whom he lodged, and robbed her of, and carried away with him, a new suit of men's clothes, of a reddish colour, and white metal buttons, a white buff waistcoat, the tails lined with blue silk,—a dark-grounded printed cotton gown,—a plain black petticoat,—a black silk handkerchief,—a pair of linen sheets,—a windling sheet,—a coarse half sheet,—some table napkins,—and sundry other articles.——A reward of a Guinea, besides reasonable expences, will be paid by Mr William Scott, Procurator-fiscal of the county of Edinburgh, or John Craw, Procurator-fiscal of the county of Haddington, to any person who will secure the said Clark in any safe prison, that he may be brought to justice.

The said Clark is of a black complexion, has black hair, about 28 years of age, about five feet nine inches high, wears a dark blue coat and vest, trousers, and a flouched hat; had come last from Dunbar, formerly from Perth; and has with him a wife, in a dark printed gown, who pretends to be a gardener's daughter about Linlithgow; and a child of about two or three months. And if they offer the clothes to sale, it is desired they may be stopped, and notice sent as above.

A NEW POST DILIGENCE

Runs through in one day,

BETWEEN DUMFRIES AND EDINBURGH,

SETS out from JOHN CAMERON's at the White Hart, Grass Market, Edinburgh, and from THOMAS CLINT's, at the King's Arms, Dumfries, every WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY morning, at four o'clock from Dumfries, and five o'clock from Edinburgh, and return that night.

Each passenger to pay 5 l. 3 s. and to be allowed 14 pound weight of luggage; and all above that weight to pay one penny halfpenny per pound.

Passengers taken up on the road to pay 4 d. per mile.

Small parcels, under one pound weight, to pay Sixpence; from one pound to six pound, One Shilling; and all above that weight to pay one penny halfpenny per pound.

The proprietors will not be answerable for cash, or any parcel above 5 l. value; but they will have good convenience for carrying papers dry and safe.—Those that send goods must observe to pack them sufficient to undergo the friction of the carriage, otherwise the proprietors will not be answerable for damages.—Parcels delivered immediately on the arrival of the Diligence, with the utmost dispatch.

Performed by JOHN CAMERON in Edinburgh; GEORGE DALYELL junior, Linton; Mr LITTLE, Moffat; and THOMAS CLINT, Dumfries.

The Glasgow and Stirling Flys set out from the White Hart, as usual.

PRESERVATION OF GAME.

COLONEL MURE CAMPBELL being determined to preserve the Game on his Estates of Rowallan in Ayrshire, and Lawers in Perthshire, he entreats no Gentleman will shoot thereon without his permission. Unqualified persons shooting without leave, and all poachers, will be prosecute with the utmost rigour of the law.

TO be SOLD by public roup, upon Saturday the 18th current, at Yester Mains, in East Lothian,

The whole of the GROWING CORNS in the Parks of Yester, consisting of betwixt 70 and 80 acres of Wheat, Barley, Oats, Beans, and Pease. To be set up in such lots as purchasers shall incline.—George Brown, overseer at Yester, will show the corns and articles of roup.

At same time will be sold, several MARES and FOALS, and young COLTS and FILLIES, of a good breed.

N. B. The roup to begin at eleven o'clock forenoon.

ROUP ADJOURNED.

AT the desire of persons intending to purchase, the roup of the Lands of CRAIGHOUSE, the property of Lord Covington, lying in the parish of St Cuthberts, and shire of Edinburgh, is adjourned to Wednesday the 15th August current, when they will again be exposed to roup, betwixt the hours of twelve and one afternoon.

The articles of roup and inventory of writs are in the hands of William Finlayson writer in Edinburgh; to whom such as wish to purchase by private bargain may apply between and the day of sale.

DISTILLERY OF SPIRITUOUS LIQUORS.

EXCISE OFFICE, EDINBURGH, *6th August* 1781.

BY an Act passed in the last Session of Parliament, *it is enacted*, "That from and after the 1st August 1781, *every person* who shall make, or distil any Low Wines, or Spirits, whether for sale or not for sale, shall be deemed and taken, and is thereby declared to be a common distiller for sale; and is thereby required to enter his, her, or their still, and stills, and all other vessels and utensils by him, her, or them made use of, for the making or keeping of wash, low wines, or spirits, at the Office of Excise next to the place where any such person shall then inhabit; and shall be liable to be charged with, and shall pay for all low wines and spirits by them made, the several duties of excise charged by the several acts for laying duties upon low wines and spirits; and shall be subject to the survey of the Officers of Excise, and to the several penalties, fines and forfeitures imposed by any act or acts of Parliament now in force, in anywise relating to distillers.—*It is further enacted*, That from and after the said 1st day of August 1781, *every person* making or keeping any wash prepared, or fit for distilling of low wines and spirits, and having in his, her, or their custody, any still or stills, [*of whatever size*], shall be deemed and taken to be, and is thereby declared to be a common distiller for sale, and liable to duties, penalties, fines, and forfeitures, imposed by any act now in force in anywise relating to distillers.—*It is also further enacted*, That no person, after the said 1st day of August 1781, shall make use of *any vessel*, wash batch, or other utensils, nor any room or place for the making, brewing, or keeping of wash made from melasses, sugar, corn, or grain respectively, or from any of the said materials mixed together, or from any of them mixed with any other material or ingredient whatsoever, for the distillation of low wines and spirits, without first giving notice thereof at the next Office of Excise, within the limits whereof he or they do inhabit; upon pain to forfeit, for every vessel, wash batch, or other utensils, room, or place so made use of, without notice as aforesaid, the sum of FIFTY POUNDS."

By the said act, *it is further enacted*; "That from and after the said 1st day of August 1781, if any person who either makes, distils, rectifies, or compounds any *British*-made spirituous liquors for sale, or who sells or deals in any sort of spirituous liquors, shall receive, or buy, or procure, or employ any person to receive, or buy for him, her, or them, or for his, her, or their use, any *British*-made spirituous liquors, (except at the public sales of such liquors as have been condemned, and are sold under the direction of the Commissioners of Excise), of any person or persons other than a maker, distiller, rectifier, or compounder of spirituous liquors for sale, over the outward door of whose still-house, store-house, ware-house, shop, cellar, vault, or other place by him, her, or them respectively made use of for the making or keeping of *British*-made spirituous liquors, shall be painted the words DISTILLER, RECTIFIER, or COMPOUNDER OF SPIRITUOUS LIQUORS, (as the case shall be); every such person so offending shall forfeit and lose, *for every such offence*, the sum of FIVE HUNDRED POUNDS."

The COMMISSIONERS OF EXCISE give this Public Notice of the foregoing clauses of the late act of Parliament respecting PRIVATE DISTILLING, &c. that all concerned may attend thereto, and prevent those disagreeable consequences which must unavoidably ensue from their neglect or refusal to pay due obedience to the several provisions of this statute.

By order of the Commissioners,

JOHN THOMSON, Secretary.

TEA-DEALERS, &c.

EXCISE OFFICE, *Edinburgh, 13th August* 1781.

BY an Act passed in the last Session of Parliament, it is enacted, That after the 25th of July 1781, No TEA, exceeding the quantity of 6 libs. weight, shall, at any time (save as herein after mentioned), be removed, or carried from any part of this kingdom, without the bills of mortality, or limits of the chief Office of Excise in London, to any place within the said limits; and, if *any tea* shall be *found so removed or carried, or removing or carrying, whether with or without permit*, (save as after mentioned) the same, with the package, and vessels, boats, horses, cattle, and carriages employed in removing the same, shall be FORFEITED; and shall and may be seized by any officer of Excise: That no Tea, exceeding the quantity of 40 libs. weight (not being in the original chests in which the same tea was imported into this kingdom by the United Company of Merchants of *England* trading to the *East Indies*, and then continuing in the same state in which it was so imported), at any one time, directed to one and the same person, or persons, where there are two or more in joint trade or partnership, shall be removed or carried from any city, town, parish, or place in this kingdom, not being within the limits aforesaid, to any other place out of the said limits, not within the said city, town, parish, or place from which the same shall be removed or carried; and, if *any tea, exceeding 40 libs. weight*, at any one time, directed to one and the same person, or persons, where there are two or more in joint trade or partnership (and not being in the original chests as aforesaid), shall be *found so removed or carried, or removing or carrying, whether with or without permit*, the same, with the package, vessels, boats, horses, cattle, and carriages employed in removing the same, shall be FORFEITED, and shall and may be seized by any officer of Excise: But it is provided, that any Dealer in any such city, town, parish, or place, may take out two or more permits; and, by virtue thereof, send two or more packages of 40 libs. each to the same person, in the same day, so as the said packages shall not contain more than 40 libs. each, and shall be sent under *different permits, and by different conveyances*.

By this act, it is also enacted, That if any Tea exceeding 6 libs. weight shall be found carrying or removing from any one part of this kingdom to any other part thereof, unless between the hours of *seven* in the morning and *five* in the evening, from the 29th of *September* to the 25th of *March* yearly; and between *five* in the morning and *seven* in the evening, from the 25th of *March* to the 29th of *September* yearly (except the same is removing or carrying by a known common stage-coach, waggon, or other stage-carriage, which usually travel out of these hours) the said Tea, and the package containing the same, whether the same be accompanied with or without a permit, and all cattle and carriages made use of in the removing or carrying the same, shall be FORFEITED, and shall and may be seized by any officer for the inland duties upon Tea.

It is thereby further enacted, That if any *Goods or Commodities, liable to excise or inland duties*, and which by law are required to be removed or sent away with permit, are not actually removed and sent away, from and out of the stock of the person taking out such permit, within the time limited and expressed in the respective permits for removing and sending away the same; or, in default of so sending away and removing the said goods or commodities, the respective permits shall not be returned to the officer from whom the same were had; then, and in every such cases, the person from and out of whose stock the said goods or commodities are thereby authorised to be removed, shall be subject to the like forfeitures and penalties as are directed by an act made in the 11th year of the reign of his late Majesty King George I. And, in case the goods or commodities mentioned in such permit shall be removed from and out of the respective stocks of the persons taking out such permits, within the time expressed and limited therein, and the same shall not, within the time limited and expressed in such permit (unless prevented by unavoidable accident or necessity) be actually delivered and received into the stock of the persons to whom the same are mentioned in such permit to be sent, then, and in every such case, all such goods and commodities so removed and sent away as aforesaid, shall be deemed and taken to be goods or commodities removed or removing without permit.

Public NOTICE is hereby given, by direction of the COMMISSIONERS of EXCISE, of the several FORFEITURES imposed by the before mentioned act, that all persons concerned may attend to, and avoid the same, by duly complying with the law in the various particulars above set forth.

By Order of the Commissioners,

JOHN THOMSON, Secretary.

SALMON FISHINGS on the TAY, near Perth.

THAT upon Tuesday the 4th day of September next, there will be exposed to public roup, within the Tolbooth of Perth, at eleven o'clock forenoon, TACKS or LEASES, for three years from and after the eleventh day of December next, of the whole SALMON FISHINGS belonging to the town and community of Perth, upon the River Tay; to be exposed in six separate tacks, and to be let to any persons who shall be the highest offerers, and who shall find sufficient security for the tack-duties, although such offerers are not burgesses of the burgh.

The terms and conditions of the leases will be seen in the hands of the town-clerk of Perth.

SALE OF LANDS IN ARGYLE-SHIRE.

TO be SOLD by public voluntary roup, within the house of George Horsington vintner in *Inverary*, on Friday the 21st September next, between the hours of twelve mid-day and one in the afternoon, in the Lots after mentioned,

LOT I. The Lands of DRUMFIN, GARTNAGRENOCH, DAILL, and CRAIGLASS, lying in the parish of Knapdale.

LOT II. The Superiority of the Lands of Stronalbanoch, Balnakeil, and Keills; which superiority affords a qualification to vote for a member of Parliament.

LOT III. The Lands of the two Kirnans, Kinlochlean, Fernoch, Carran, Achalick, Auchadahairly, Darinerinoch, Darlinacardoch, and Lagg: Also, the Lands of Balimore, and Salmon-fishing thereto belonging on the water of Add; the Lands of Kilmichael, Succoth, and Letternamolt, with the Superiority of the Lands of Glasvar, Barmaloch, and Aulochshenoch, all lying in the parish of Kilmichael of Glassarie. The superiority and property lands in this lot holding immediately of the Crown, afford one qualification to vote for a member of Parliament. The lands are of great extent; from their situation very capable of improvement; and the Woods upon them, which are in a thriving condition, of considerable value; and the lands hold partly of the Crown, and partly of subjects superior.

The conditions of sale and writings to be shown by Allan M'Dougall writer to the signet, Edinburgh; to whom, or to Peter Murdoch, Esq. merchant in Glasgow, those intending to become purchasers, and who are desirous of further information, may apply.

TO BE SOLD,

THAT DWELLING-HOUSE, on the north west corner of St Andrew's Square, lately possessed by Lady Binning, with the Coach-houses, Stable, and pertinents thereto belonging.

The house consists of a housekeeper's room, butler's room, and servants hall, in the sunk storey; with a large kitchen, larder, and wash-house adjoining thereto;—a dining-room, and parlour fitted up for library, in the first floor;—a drawing-room, and large bed-room, in the second floor;—three bed-chambers in the third floor;—and three garret rooms, with a lumber garret, in the attic storey.——Several of the rooms have large light closets; and there are two cellars within the house fitted up with catacombs, besides three vaulted cellars below the pavement, opposite to the front of the house.

The purchaser may have immediate access to the premisses.

The title-deeds are in the hands of Lachlan Duff writer to the signet, who has power to conclude a bargain, and to whom those inclining to purchase may apply.

If the house is not sold, it will be SET, either furnished or unfurnished, for such term of years after Martinmas next as may be agreed on.

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